**Minutes**

**Forsyth City Council Meeting**

**January 6, 2025**

**Call to Order by City Clerk**

In accordance with section 2.18 of the City Charter, City Clerk, Shayla Furlow called the council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.; at that time the meeting was turned over to Mayor Wilson to preside.

**Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation and Roll Call**

Mayor Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was led by Reverend Rodney Callahan. In attendance for the meeting was Mayor Eric Wilson, Councilmembers Josh Hill, Chris Hewett, Lois Allen, Greg Goolsby, Charles Wilder, and Mike Dodd. Also in attendance was City Manager, Craig Mims; Assistant City Manager, Regina Ivie; City Attorney, Brian Causey; and City Clerk, Shayla Furlow. Six members of the council were in attendance for the meeting; therefore, all unanimous votes will be six votes (Hill, Hewett, Allen, Goolsby, Wilder and Dodd).

**Approval of the agenda.**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Allen; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the minutes from the council meeting held on December 16, 2024.**

Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to approve the minutes from the council meeting held on December 16, 2024 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Swearing in of City Attorney**

Mayor Wilson administered the Oath of Office to the City Attorney, Mr. Brian Causey.

**Appointment of Mayor Pro- Tem for 2025.**

Mr. Hewett nominated Mr. Goolsby.

Mr. Goolsby nominated Mr. Dodd.

Mr. Hewett withdrew his nomination for Mr. Goolsby.

Mr. Wilder offered a motion to close the floor for nominations for the appointment of Mayor Pro-Tem for 2025. Seconded by Mr. Hill; the motion carried unanimously. There being only one nomination, Mr. Dodd was appointed Mayor Pro- Tem for 2025.

**Adoption of parliamentary procedures.**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to adopt the latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order for parliamentary procedures. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Appointment of 2025 professionals.**

Mayor Wilson stated that he was aware one change that needed to be made to Energy Economics Consulting, the city has been using Electric Cities of Georgia as the City Utility Engineer.

After some discussion Mr. Wilder offered a motion to approve the 2025 professionals with the change of Electric Cities of Georgia as the City Utility Engineer. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**Set qualifying fees.**

Mr. Hill offered a motion to set the qualifying fees as presented. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**2025 Board Appointments.**

* **Planning and Zoning Commission**

Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to table the appointment for Planning and Zoning Commission to February 3, 2025 to allow the council more time to think of nominations. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

* **Downtown Development Authority**

Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to appoint Mr. Hill for the council appointment to the Downtown Development Authority. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

* **Convention & Visitors Bureau Board**

Mr. Goolsby nominated Mr. Greg Tapley and Ms. Kari Buckindail for the member at-large seat on the Convention & Visitors Bureau Board.

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to close the floor for nominations for the member at- large seat on the Convention & Visitors Bureau Board.

Mayor Wilson called for a vote on the appointment for the at-large seat of the Convention & Visitors Bureau Board. Mr. Tapley had five votes (Hill, Hewett, Allen, Goolsby, and Dodd) and Ms. Buckindail had one vote (Wilder). Mr. Tapley was appointed to the at- large seat.

Mr. Goolsby nominated Mr. Navid Kapadia to serve as hotelier on the Convention & Visitors Board. After discussion it was determined that Mr. Kapadia no longer wanted to serve on the board. Mr. Goolsby withdrew his nomination.

Mr. Goolsby nominated Mr. Sam Patel to serve as hotelier on the Convention & Visitors Board.

Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to close the floor for nomination for hotelier on the Convention & Visitors Bureau Board. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

There being only one nomination Mr. Sam Patel was appointed hotelier on the board.

Mr. Goolsby nominated Mrs. Allen for the council appointment to the Convention & Visitors Bureau Board. Seconded by Mr. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously with five votes (Hill, Hewett, Goolsby, Wilder, and Dodd) and one abstention (Allen).

* **Housing Board**

Mayor Wilson reappointed Dana Lynch to serve on the Housing Authority Board.

* **Golf Board**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to reappoint Mr. Dodd to serve on the Golf Board. Seconded by Mr. Wilder; the motion carried unanimously.

* **Monroe County Development Authority**

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to reappoint Mr. Goolsby to serve on the Monroe County Development Authority Board. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously with five votes (Hill, Hewett, Allen, Wilder, and Dodd) and one abstention (Goolsby).

* **Monroe County Hospital Board**

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to reappoint Mr. Hewett to serve on the Monroe County Hospital Board. Seconded by Mr. Hill; the motion carried unanimously with five votes (Hill, Allen, Goolsby, Wilder, and Dodd) and one abstention (Hewett).

**Update of Facility Conditions Assessments.**

Mr. Will Campbell, the Project Manager, stated that he and Shay Smith, the Public Works Director met with two representatives of ISES Corporation at the Convention & Visitors Bureau and Alderman Hall. The representatives of ISES Corporation analyzed all facets of each location to determine the condition of each building. After compiling their report, they sent a full analysis of each building listing non-recurring costs, recurring costs, and deferred recurring costs as well as long analysis of each building’s specific needs and issues.

**2024 year to date Financial Review**

Mrs. Regina Ivie, the Assistant City Manager, reviewed the general revenue funds, preliminary general fund expenses, and the general funds totals. She reviewed the combined utilities for the electric department, water and sewer. Mrs. Ivie provided a year-to-date review of the 2020 SPLOST, TSPLOST, special projects, local fiscal recovery fund, Truist Bank park funds, and the Municipal Competitive Trust.

**Approval of Requisitions Greater than $6,000**

* **Industrial Chemicals, Inc. - $14,998.50**
* **Ten-8 Fire & Safety, LLC - $17,805.75**

Mr. Hewett offered to approve the requisitions greater than $6000 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**City Manager’s Report**

Mr. Craig Mims, the City Manager, reported that:

-A big thank you to Kemie Childs, the Downtown Director, for a successful New Year’s Eve event.

-Great job to the police department officers for exceeding post training requirements for 2024.

-He reminded everyone that the next council meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 21st due to the MLK holiday.

**City Attorney Report**

Mr. Brian Causey, the City Attorney, thanked the council for the appointment as City Attorney. He stated that he had one issue that would need to be discussed in executive session.

**Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Wilson stated that we had a great New Year’s Eve event and Kemie did a great job. He stated it requires all city departments such as Public Safety and Public Works from set up to breakdown. He also thanked the businesses that participated and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

**Council Board Reports**

Mr. Hill stated that the New Year’s Eve event was a great success. He stated that the Main Street/ Downtown Development 2025 events calendar will be released on Facebook soon and encouraged everyone to stay updated on everything Main Street.

Mr. Hewett stated that the Hospital Board will meet on Thursday, January 23, 2025**.**

Mrs. Allen stated that the Convention and Visitors Board had Christmas dinner, and it was very nice.

Mr. Dodd stated that the golf course is closed due to the weather.

**Additional Business**

Mr. Hill stated that a constituent, Brian Haught, brought up the conditions of the roads in Evergreen Subdivision and questioned if the roads in the subdivision are on the list to be paved.

Mr. Mims stated they are on the list for the 2026 SPLOST.

Mr. Hewett questioned if any of the roads in the cemetery would be paved.

Mr. Wilder stated that Mr. Wise was at the meeting and was curious if any information had been obtained regarding his sewer request.

Mr. Mike Batchelor, Utilities Director, stated that he had made contact with Mr. Wise.

Mr. Goolsby questioned about the wayfinding signs. He stated that the frames are still up, but the signs are missing.

Mr. Batchelor stated that they are working on fixing the signs.

Ms. Gilda Stanbury stated that The Convention & Visitors Bureau will be moving Tuesday or Wednesday and requested closure of parking spaces to allow for the movers.

Mr. Mims advised Ms. Stanbury to coordinate with the Public Works Director and Police Chief.

**Public Comments**

No public comments.

**Executive Session**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to go into executive session for legal matters and personnel matters at 6:40p.m. Seconded by Mr. Hill; the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hill offered a motion to end the executive session at 7:32p.m. Seconded by Mr. Wilder; the motion carried unanimously.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Hewett offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33p.m. Seconded by Mrs. Allen; the motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes submitted by:**

**Shayla Furlow, City Clerk**